

TABLE 49.50—A—INITIAL CRITERIA TO CERTIFY THE QUALIFICATIONS OF MINE RESCUE TEAMS

Qualification	Criteria (30 CFR)
(1) Team is available at all times when miners are underground	49.12(a); 49.12(g)
(2) Except where alternative compliance is permitted, team has five members and one alternate	49.12(b)
(3) Members have experience working in an underground coal mine	49.12(c)
(4) Team is available within 1-hour ground travel time from the mine rescue station to the mine	49.12(f)
(5) Appropriate mine rescue equipment is provided, inspected, tested, and maintained	49.16
(6) Members are physically fit	49.17
(7) Members have completed initial training	49.18(a)

TABLE 49.50—B—ANNUAL CRITERIA TO MAINTAIN MINE RESCUE TEAM CERTIFICATION

Qualification	Criteria (30 CFR)
(1) Members are properly trained annually	49.18(b)
(2) Members are familiar with the operations of each covered mine	49.20(a)(1)
(3) Members participate in at least two local mine rescue contests annually. Judges certify results ..	49.20(a)(2)
(4) Members participate in mine rescue training at each covered mine	49.20(b)(1); 49.20(b)(2)(iii); 49.20(b)(3)(ii); 49.20(b)(4)
(5) Members are knowledgeable about the operations and ventilation of each covered mine	49.20(b)(2)(ii); 49.20(b)(3)(i); 49.30

§ 49.60 Requirements for a local mine rescue contest.

(a) A local mine rescue contest is one that—

- (1) Is conducted in the United States;
- (2) Uses MSHA-recognized rules;
- (3) Has a minimum of three mine rescue teams competing;
- (4) Has one or more problems conducted on one or more days with a determined winner;
- (5) Includes team members who—
 - (i) Have the necessary equipment to participate in a simulated mine rescue team exercise,

(ii) Participate in a simulated mine rescue team exercise while being timed and observed by trained judges who evaluate the performance of each team and provide written feedback, and

(iii) Wear oxygen breathing apparatus while participating in a simulated mine rescue team exercise; and

(6) Includes contest judges who have completed annual training for mine rescue contest judges.

(b) A local mine rescue contest is training that provides an objective evaluation of demonstrated mine rescue team skills and can be a Mine Emergency Response Development (MERD) exercise or a practical simulation exercise, such as a fire or explosion drill, where the team participates in simulated mine rescue team exercises and wears breathing apparatus.

(c) Upon request from the District Manager, the operator shall provide information concerning each designated team's schedule of participation in upcoming local mine rescue contests.